

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 TRSE-00 /058 W  
-----021133Z 092222 /17

R 021055Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6889  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5972

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, UR  
SUBJECT: THE MAY DAY PARADE IN MOSCOW

REF: 76 MOSCOW 6888

1. BREZHNEV AND THE ENTIRE MOSCOW-BASED LEADERSHIP WERE ON LENIN'S TOMB FOR THE MAY DAY PARADE. AS SHOWN ON TV, BREZHNEV LOOKED BETTER THAN WE HAVE SEEN HIM FOR A LONG TIME. HIS FACE WAS LESS PUFFY AND HIS JOWLS LESS PROMINENT THAN WE HAVE NOTICED RECENTLY. HE STOOD BAREHEADED THROUGH MOST OF THE TWO HOURS THAT THE PARADE WAS SHOWN ON TV. USLOV WAS PRESENT THROUGHOUT THE PARADE. MAZUROV IS SHOWN ON THE PICTURES CARRIED IN PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA, BUT WAS NEVER SEEN ON THE TELEVISION COVERAGE. THE ORDER OF THE POLITBURO WAS AS FOLLOWS: (READING LEFT TO RIGHT, BREZHNEV IN THE PLACE OF HONOR) USTINOV, PODGORNIY, BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN, SUSLOV, KIRILENKO, GRISHIN, KULAKOV, GROMYKO, MAZUROV, PEL'SHE, ANDROPOV. THE TV COVERAGE OF THE POLITBURO FEATURED A GREAT MANY SHOTS OF BREZHNEV BY HIMSELF, LEAVING NO DOUBT AS TO WHO WAS THE CENTER OF ATTENTION, AND THE PICTURES OF THE PARADERS IN RED SQUARE AS CARRIED IN IZVESTIYA AND PRAVDA HAVE BREZHNEV AS WELL AS LENIN AND OTHER POSTERS AND FLOATS.

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2. THE PARADE ITSELF WAS MUCH AS LAST YEAR'S: CANNED MUSIC AND AN ANNOUNCER PROCLAIMING THE MAY DAY SLOGANS TO THE CROWD. THERE SEEMED MORE BREZHNEV FLOATS (USUALLY A LARGE PORTRAIT AND A QUOTATION)

THE NUMEROUS PORTRAITS OF THE POLITBURO AND BREZHNEV CARRIED FIRST, WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS IN NORMAL ALPHABETICAL ORDER. THERE SEEMED FEWER SLOGANS ON THE ECONOMY THAN LAST YEAR (WHICH WAS THE FIRST

OF THE TENTH FYP). THE FOREIGN POLICY SLOGANS SEEMED LITTLE CHANGED FROM LAST YEAR. NEITHER THE U.S. NOR ANY OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRY WAS SIGNALLED OUT FOR ATTENTION, ALTHOUGH THE TV ANNOUNCERS REFERRED MORE OFTEN TO "IMPERIALISM" THAN WAS CASE LAST YEAR.

3. ALTHOUGH PHAM VAN DONG HAD ARRIVED IN MOSCOW ON APRIL 30, HE WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE PARADE. HOWEVER SRV DEFENSE MINISTER GIAP WAS ON THE PODIUM BETWEEN USTINOV AND OGARKOV. CORVALAN AND THE BRAZILIAN, URUGUAYAN AND CANADIAN PARTY FIRST SECRETARIES WERE PRESENT AT THE PARADE. THE FIRST TASS ENGLISH DESPATCH ON THE PARADE HAD DOLORES IBARURRI, LAPASSIONARA, PRESENT, BUT HER NAME WAS DROPPED FROM SUBSEQUENT TASS COVERAGE.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Expiration:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THE MAY DAY PARADE IN MOSCOW  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, UR, (BREZHNEV, LEONID I)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/1d3ee287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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